



NEWS RELEASE

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SCOTT PETERS

First District

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Council President Urges Mayor, Employees to Keep Talking

SAN DIEGO -- *Council President Scott Peters today released the following statement on the stalled talks between the City and its non-public safety employee groups.*

“The public is tired of political posturing. They want their leaders to work together toward real reform.

“This City Council remains a strong supporter of the Mayor’s reform agenda. By working together, we have completed the City’s backlog of audits, enacted strong financial reform and oversight mechanisms, placed key charter reform proposals on the ballot and restored the City’s access to the public bond markets.

“Pension reform remains a key element in restoring the City financial stability. This Council began those reforms four years ago by ending the chronic underfunding of the pension system, placing two measures on the ballot to reform the pension board and prevent future underfunding, increasing the amount employees pay into their own pension and reforming retirement and healthcare benefits for future employees.

“I will commit to holding a public hearing to allow my Council colleagues to consider the Mayor’s request to place a pension reform measure on the November ballot. I had hoped the Mayor would reach an agreement with employee groups without triggering a ballot measure, which has the potential to cost the taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars.

“In the meantime, I strongly urge the Mayor and employee groups to return to the negotiating table and find a way to save the City millions while protecting working families.”

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Timeline for Submitting Measures for November Ballot

June 20	Deadline for materials to be submitted to the Council President's office or City Clerk
June 25	Rules Committee meeting to discuss all proposed ballot measures for November
July 7	City Council hearing to consider proposals, give direction to the City Attorney to draft proposed ballot measures
July 28	Second City Council hearing to review written drafts, give final approval
August 8	All materials due to the County Registrar of Voters
August 21	Ballot arguments due to the County Registrar of Voters